



Department
for Education

Early Years Benchmarking

User Guide

March 2014

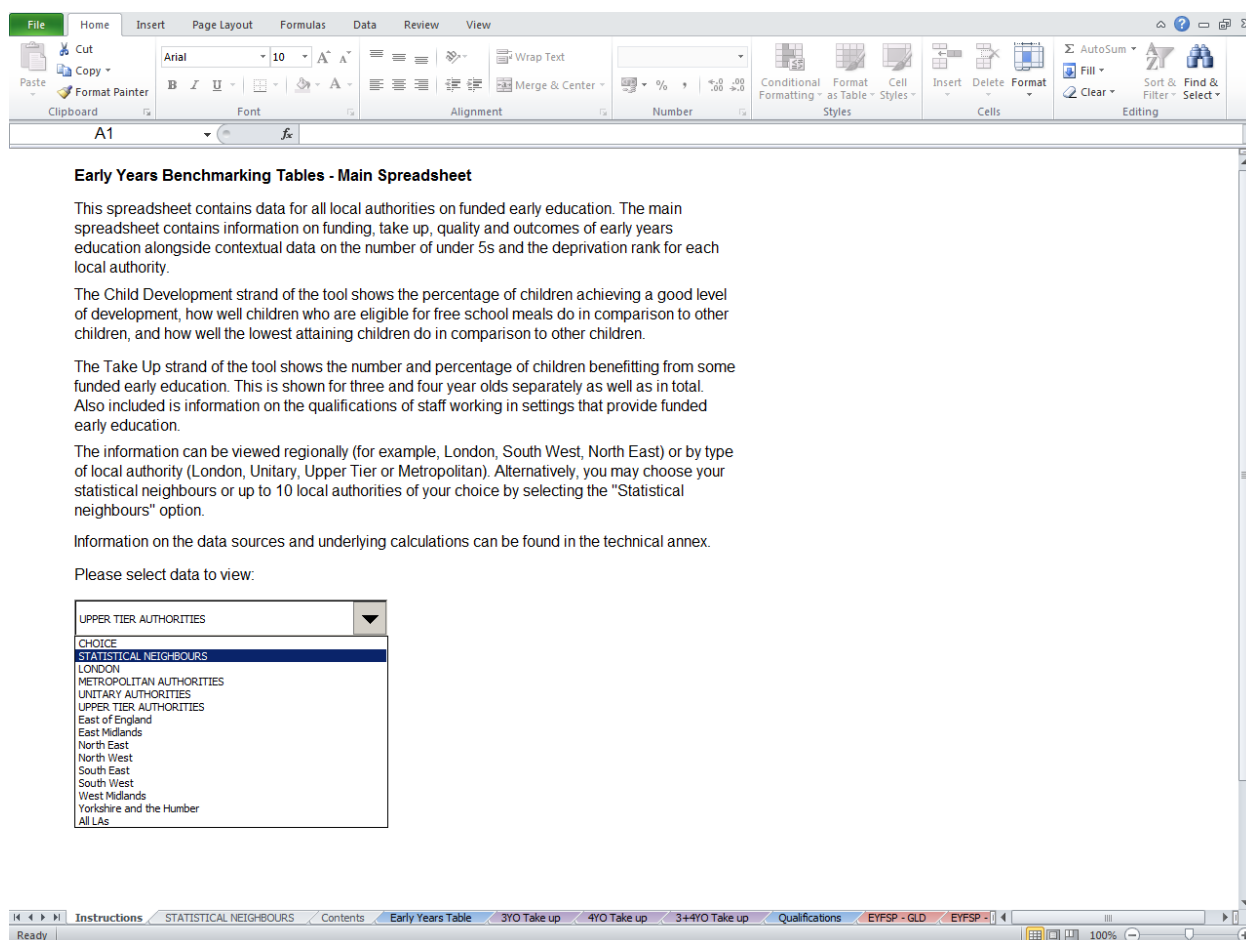
Contents

Introduction	3
Main benchmarking tool	5
Main Spreadsheet	5
Take Up	7
Staff Qualifications	8
Child Development: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile	9
Early Years Funding	11
Early years funding benchmarking toolkit	11
Key budget statistics	14
Benchmarking against statistical neighbours	14
Early years proforma	18

Introduction

This document contains a brief explanation of how to use the benchmarking tool and details of the data used within it. For a more detailed explanation of the methodology employed in the calculation of these spreadsheets please see the technical note.

For each of the different strands it is possible to view information for different regions and by type of local authority.



In addition you can chose to compare your chosen local authority with its statistical neighbours or a selection of up to ten local authorities of your choice. Once you have chosen your local authority and those local authorities to compare it with, you can use the create table button to view the data.

Choose LAs

1. Please select your LA

My LA

Choice

Choice
Barking and Dagenham
Barnet
Barnsley
Bath & North East Somerset
Bedford Borough
Bexley
Birmingham

Or make your own selection of LAs using the drop down boxes

3. When you have made your selection, press the "Create Table" button to view the benchmarking table

Create Table

Other LAs

Clear LAs to make new selection

Note: When statistical neighbours are selected, LAs are shown in order of closeness to your LA

Statistical neighbours are designated local authorities which are deemed to have similar characteristics, using a detailed set of criteria. A more detailed explanation of statistical neighbours can be found here:

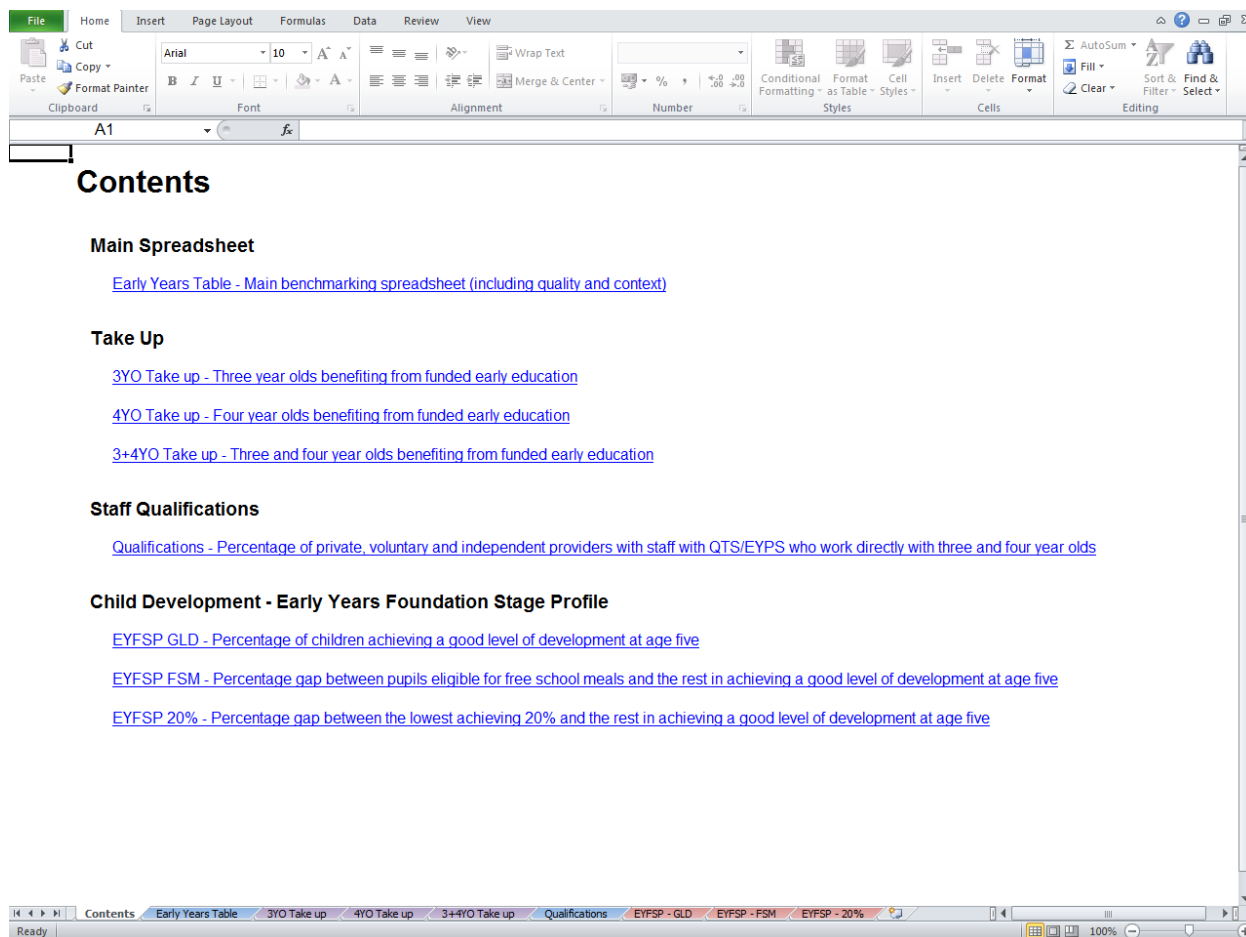
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110809101133/http://education.gov.uk/rsgateway/db/sta/t000712/index.shtml>

The benchmarking tool is formed of three main spreadsheets. The main benchmarking tool provides summary information on funding alongside detailed information on quality, take up and child development, as measured by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) profile outcomes, as well as contextual data for each local authority.

In addition to the main benchmarking tool the Early Years funding tool provides more analysis on the projected spend in 2013-14 to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds. More detailed information on spend is also provided in the Early Years pro forma which complements the information in the benchmarking tool.

Main benchmarking tool

Once an LA is selected the user is taken to the contents page.



The user can then click on the hyperlinks to view the different tables.

Main Spreadsheet

The **funding** columns in this spreadsheet show the average planned spend per hour on two year olds and three and four year olds for each local authority. This data is from 2013-14 section 251 returns. Alongside this is the hourly rate local authorities have been allocated by the Department for Education for two year old entitlement places.

Early Years Benchmarking_open Dec 13 Update - 10th March - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Developer

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles

4. The Department for Education provides LAs with an average funding rate of £5.09 per hour for statutory two-year-old entitlement places. This is adjusted for local area cost, within a range of £4.85-£7.08 per hour. In addition,

[Return to contents](#)
[Return to instructions](#)

Statistical Neighbours

To print use the buttons below.

View Print Preview

Print Table

	Child Development (EYFSP) ¹⁴			Context			
	% of children achieving a good level of development ^{15,16} (2013)	% gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and the rest ^{15,17} (2013)	% gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest ^{16,18} (2013)	Number of 0-4 year olds ¹⁹ (Mid-2012)	Deprivation rank ^{20,21} (2010)	% of 3 and 4 year olds ¹¹ receiving funded early education ^{12,13} in maintained ²² settings (2013)	% of 3 and 4 year olds ¹¹ receiving funded early education ^{12,13} in PVI ⁸ providers (2013)
England - Average (mean) or Total	52%	19%	36.6%	3,328,750		59%	40%
England - Average (median)	51%	20%	35.5%	17,500	77	63%	36%
England - Minimum	28%	2%	10.5%	100	1	33%	3%
England - Maximum	100%	34%	44.6%	90,800	149	97%	66%
Selection - Average (median)	51%	18%	37.3%	15,900	58	64%	35%
Selection - Minimum	41%	11%	30.1%	11,500	36	40%	25%
Selection - Maximum	57%	23%	44.6%	49,500	74	74%	59%
373 Sheffield	51%	18%	41.3%	34,300	47	64%	35%
383 Leeds	51%	23%	44.6%	49,500	55	70%	29%
831 Derby	41%	17%	41.1%	18,100	67	71%	28%
874 Peterborough	47%	16%	42.7%	14,700	57	40%	59%
851 Portsmouth	55%	11%	30.1%	13,600	61	44%	54%
852 Southampton	51%	17%	35.9%	15,900	65	45%	55%
879 Plymouth	57%	19%	33.1%	15,700	58	48%	51%
332 Dudley	51%	22%	39.9%	19,100	74	66%	34%
894 Telford & Wrekin	45%	18%	37.3%	11,500	70	60%	38%
372 Rotherham	56%	20%	35.7%	16,000	45	74%	25%
357 Tameside	42%	18%	35.7%	14,800	36	72%	27%

A. Note: Some caution should be exercised when interpreting these figures. Please see technical notes for further information.

Instructions STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS Contents Early Years Table 3YO Take up 4YO Take up 3+4YO Take up Qualifications EYFSP - GLD EYFSP - FSM EYFSP - 20% 130%

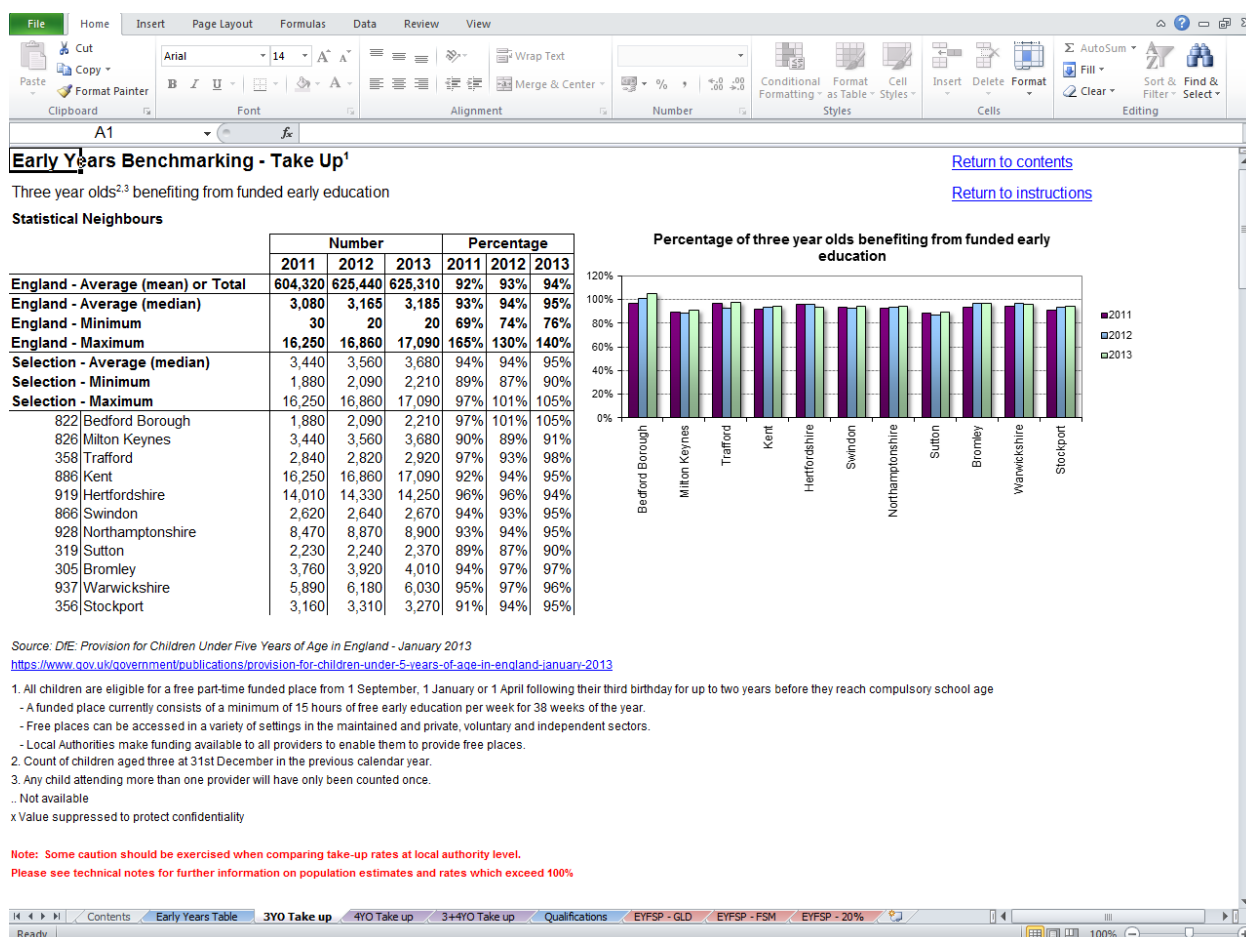
The **EYFSP outcomes at age five** columns show the percentage of all children achieving a good level of development at age five across the local authority; the difference between the level of attainment for children who qualify for free school meals compared with other children; and the gap between the lowest achieving 20% of children compared with the rest.

There is also a range of **context** data. This includes the number of 0-4 year olds in a local authority, a deprivation rank (where 1 is the most deprived) and the percentage of three and four year olds taking up funded early education in PVI settings and maintained settings to give an indication of the local childcare market.

Above each table hyperlinks are available to take the user back to the content page or to the instructions sheet to make the tool easier to navigate.

Take Up

The sheets covering take up show the number and percentage of children benefitting from funded early education in each local authority. The first sheet covers **three year old** children taking up the entitlement in the last three years; the second covers **four year old** children taking up the entitlement in the last three years; and the third covers **three and four year old** children combined taking up the entitlement in the last three years.

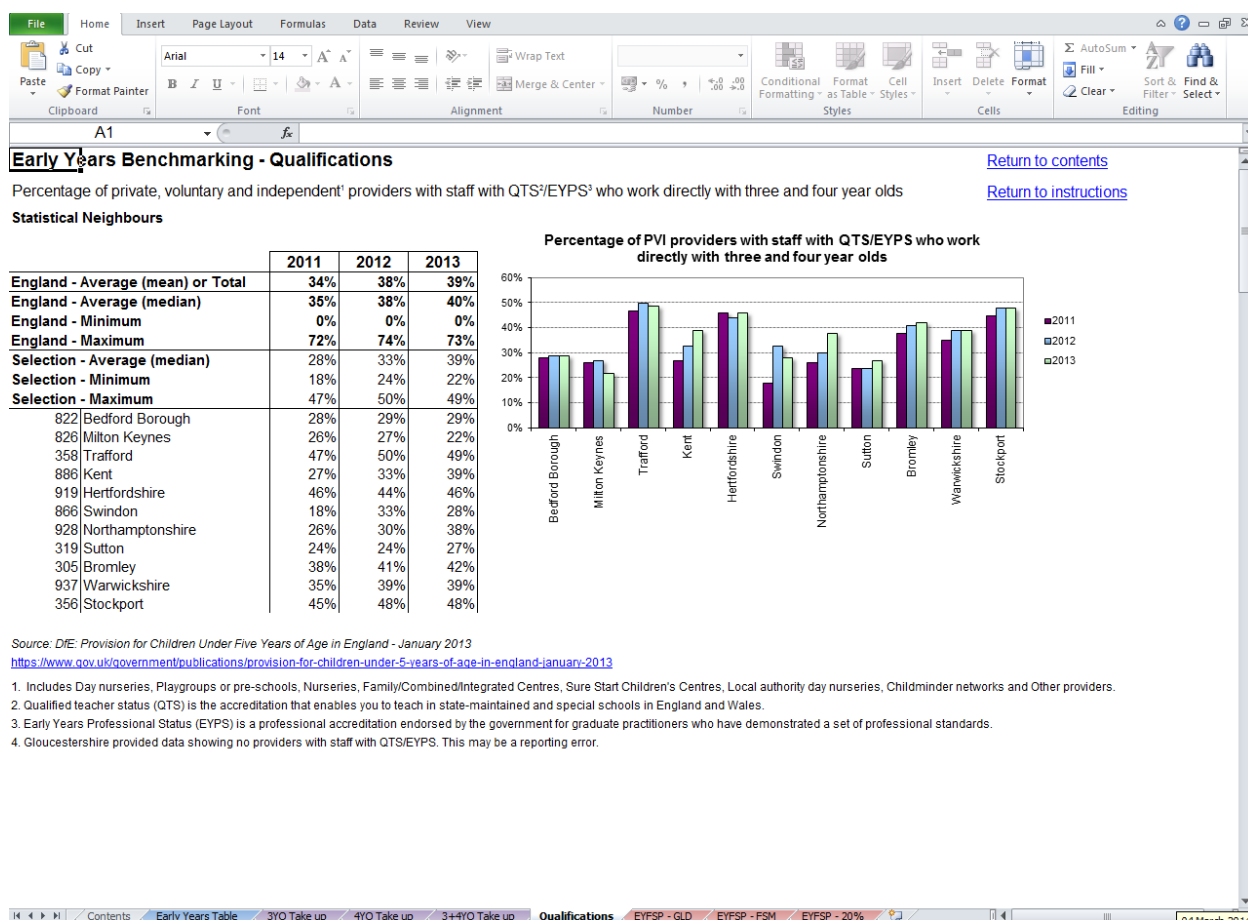


Why some figures are over 100 per cent:

Population estimates at lower geographic levels, such as a local authority, are subject to a greater degree of uncertainty than at national level. The estimates used here are derived from mid-year estimates and projections provided by the Office for National Statistics. They are estimates and are not directly comparable to the Early Years Census data. So, although the figures for the number of children taking up the free entitlement are accurate, when these are used in conjunction with the population estimates, there is less certainty about the accuracy. In some cases, this has resulted in local authority take-up rates exceeding 100 per cent. The figures here should therefore be viewed as an approximate basis for comparison between local authorities and on a year on year basis, rather than as accurate estimates of take up rates.

Staff Qualifications

This sheet shows the percentage of private, voluntary and independent settings providing funded early education who have staff with Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Professional Status working directly with three and four years olds in each of the last three years.



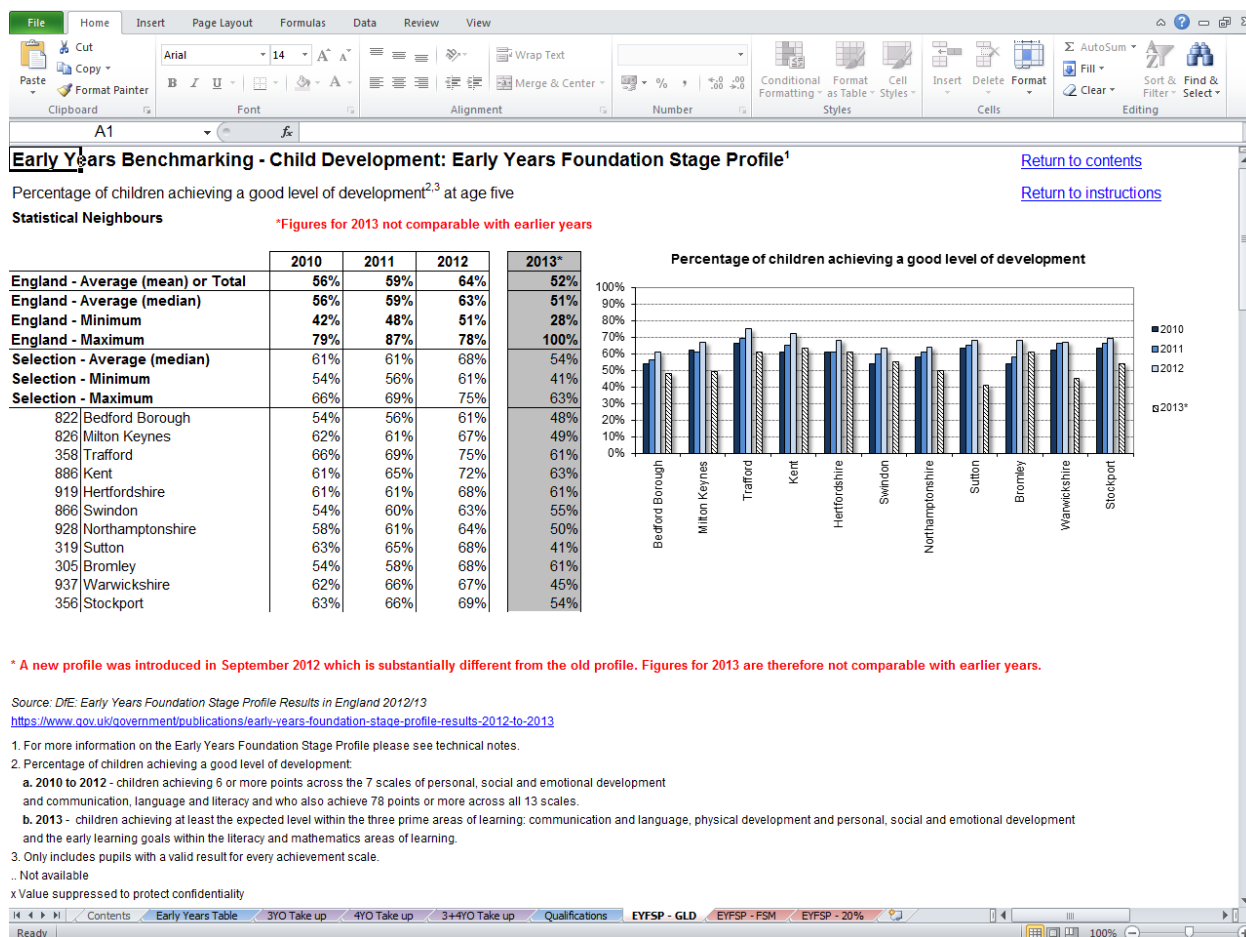
Child Development: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

The EYFS Profile assesses each child's progress against a set of 17 early learning goals. All early years providers must complete an EYFS profile for each child during the academic year in which they reach the age of five. The profile describes the child's level of development at the end of the EYFS and identifies their learning needs for the next stage of school.

The first sheet shows the percentage of all children achieving a good level of development at age five across the local authority. It contains figures for the last three years.

The second sheet shows the achievement gap for the most deprived children compared to other children. This is calculated by comparing the results of children who qualify for Free School Meals to the achievements of all other children.

The third sheet shows the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the other 80% of children in achieving a good level of development.



A new profile was introduced in September 2012 which is substantially different from the old profile. Figures for 2013 are therefore not comparable with earlier years.

Early Years Funding

All funding for early learning for two, three and four-year-olds is in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), which is ring-fenced for education purposes for children aged 2 to 16. The Department for Education calculates a total amount of DSG for each local authority and distributes it to them. There is not a separately identified amount of funding for early learning for three and four-year-olds at national level, but the Department published the individual local authority allocations for supporting early learning for eligible two-year-olds:

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/l/2yo%20capital%20and%20revenue%20funding%20allocations%20spreadsheet.pdf>

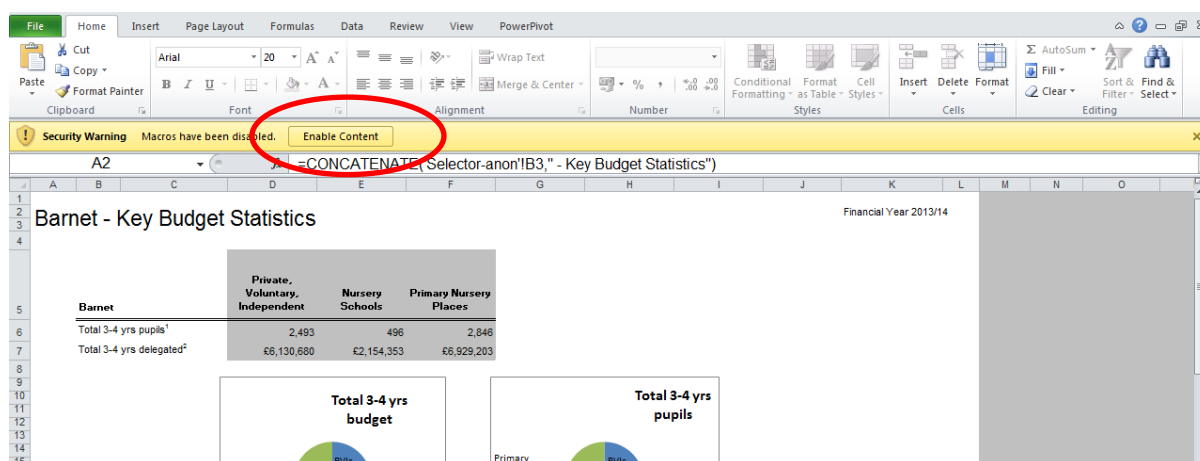
All decisions about the amount of DSG to be spent on early learning are made by local authorities in consultation with their schools forum.

The Department is publishing an **early years funding benchmarking toolkit**; and for the first time, an **early years proforma** for each local authority. Both tools include the projected spend in 2013-14 to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds and is based on the budget information from the Section 251 data provided by the local authorities.

Early years funding benchmarking toolkit

The funding benchmarking table includes the projected spend on early years providers to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds. The information is broken down into provider types and includes budget per pupil and budget per hour information.

Before you start, click the “Enable Content” to start using the toolkit.



The benchmarking toolkit allows you to view data for a chosen local authority, with the added option to view data for up to ten of its statistical neighbours.

This worksheet allows you to view data for your own LA along with your statistical neighbours, or with your own choice of other LAs.

Choose LAs

1. Please select your LA

My LA

Choice

2. Then either select your statistical neighbours:

Click here to show your Statistical Neighbours

Or make your own selection of LAs using the drop down boxes

3. When you have made your selection, press the "Create Table" button to view the benchmarking table

Create Table

Other LAs

Clear LAs to make new selection

1. Click the drop-down button to choose the local authority.

2. If you want to see the data for statistical neighbours click on the button "Click here to show your statistical neighbours"

3. Click "Create Table" to generate the funding data tables.

Note: When statistical neighbours are selected, LAs are shown in order of closeness to your LA

In this example, the data for Bexley and its statistical neighbours is selected.

This worksheet allows you to view data for your own LA along with your statistical neighbours, or with your own choice of other LAs.

Choose LAs

1. Please select your LA

My LA

Bexley

2. Then either select your statistical neighbours:

Click here to show your Statistical Neighbours

Or make your own selection of LAs using the drop down boxes

3. When you have made your selection, press the "Create Table" button to view the benchmarking table

Create Table

Other LAs

Clear LAs to make new selection

Havering

Medway

Swindon

Essex

Kent

Thurrock

Southend-on-Sea

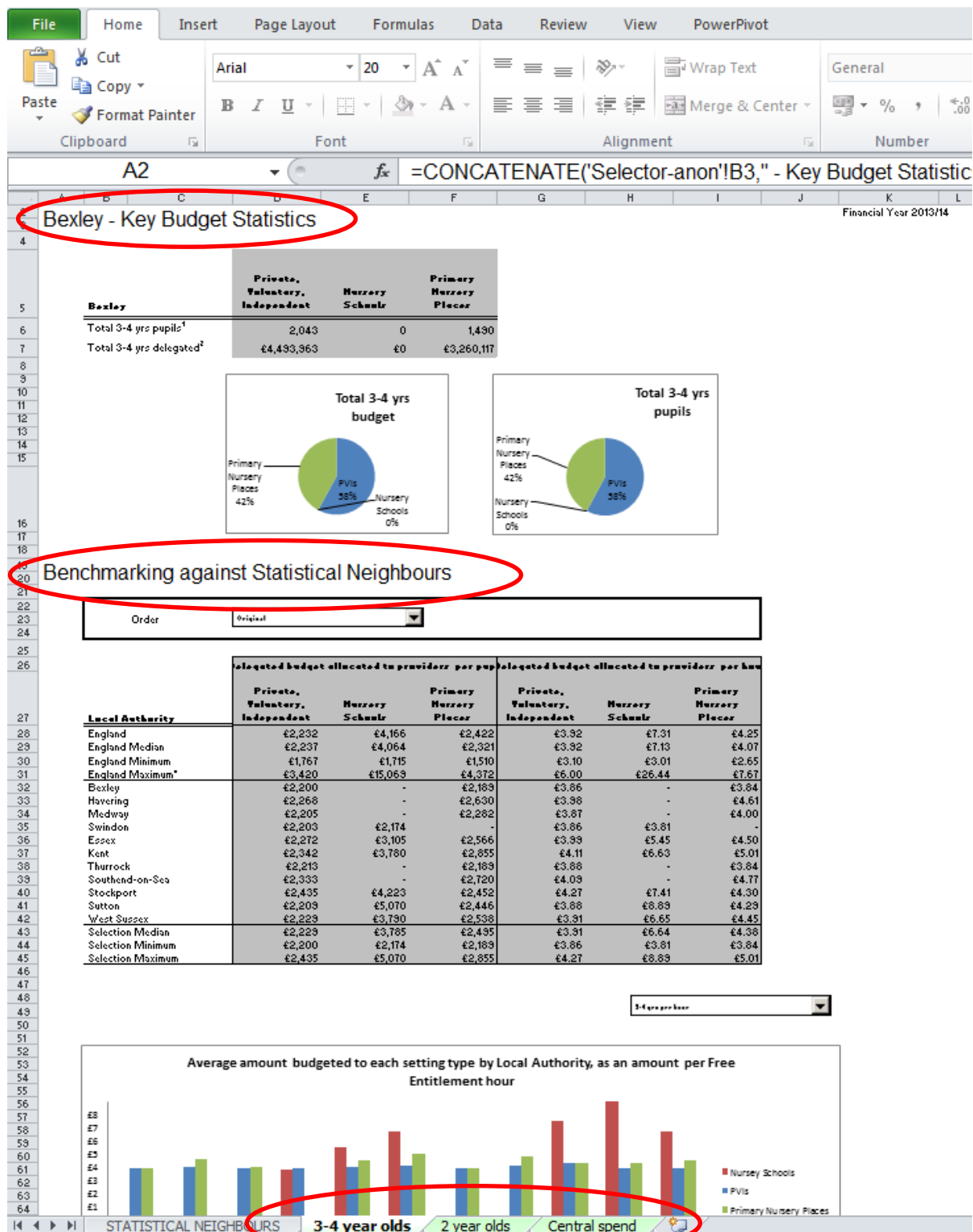
Stodport

Sutton

West Sussex

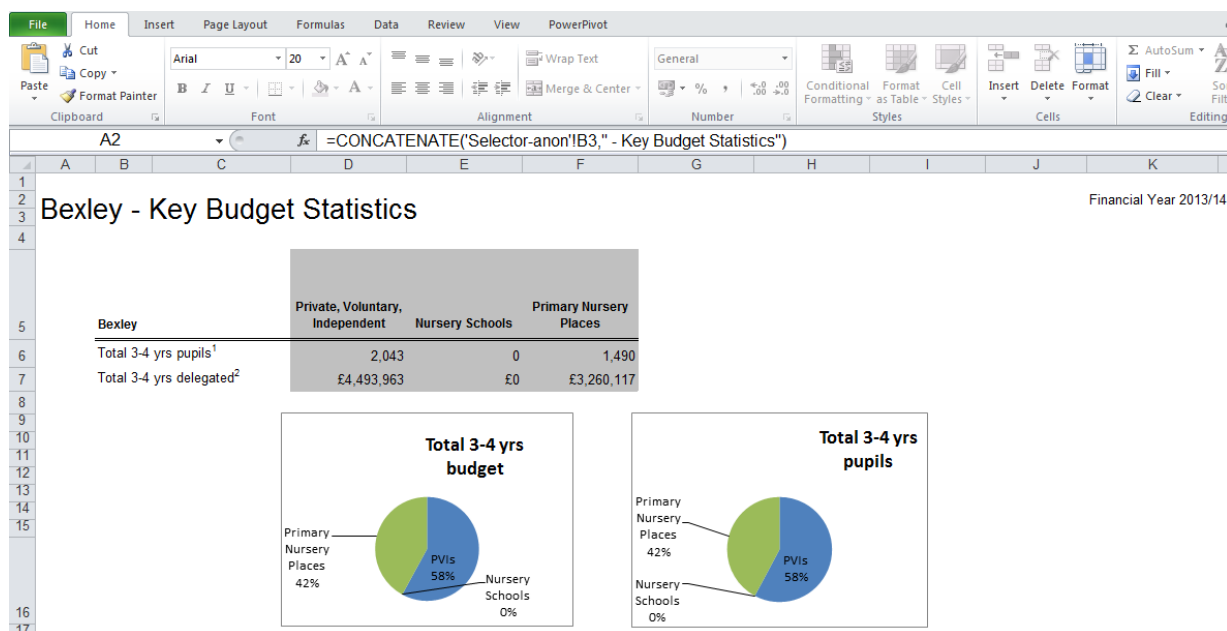
Note: When statistical neighbours are selected, LAs are shown in order of closeness to your LA

The toolkit includes separate worksheets for three and four-year-olds, two-year-olds and central spend information. Each worksheet is split into two sections: key budget statistics and benchmarking against statistical neighbours.



Key budget statistics

The key budget statistics table shows gives the total number of pupils and the total projected spend (in £000s) on each of the provider types: PVI (Private, Voluntary & Independent), maintained nursery schools and nursery classes within a primary school. For the purposes of this spreadsheet, a child is considered to be the equivalent of 15 hours provision a week for 38 weeks, or 570 hours of provision, that being the same as one child taking their full entitlement for the year. The total delegated budget and the total early years pupils are also represented as pie charts and show in percentages.

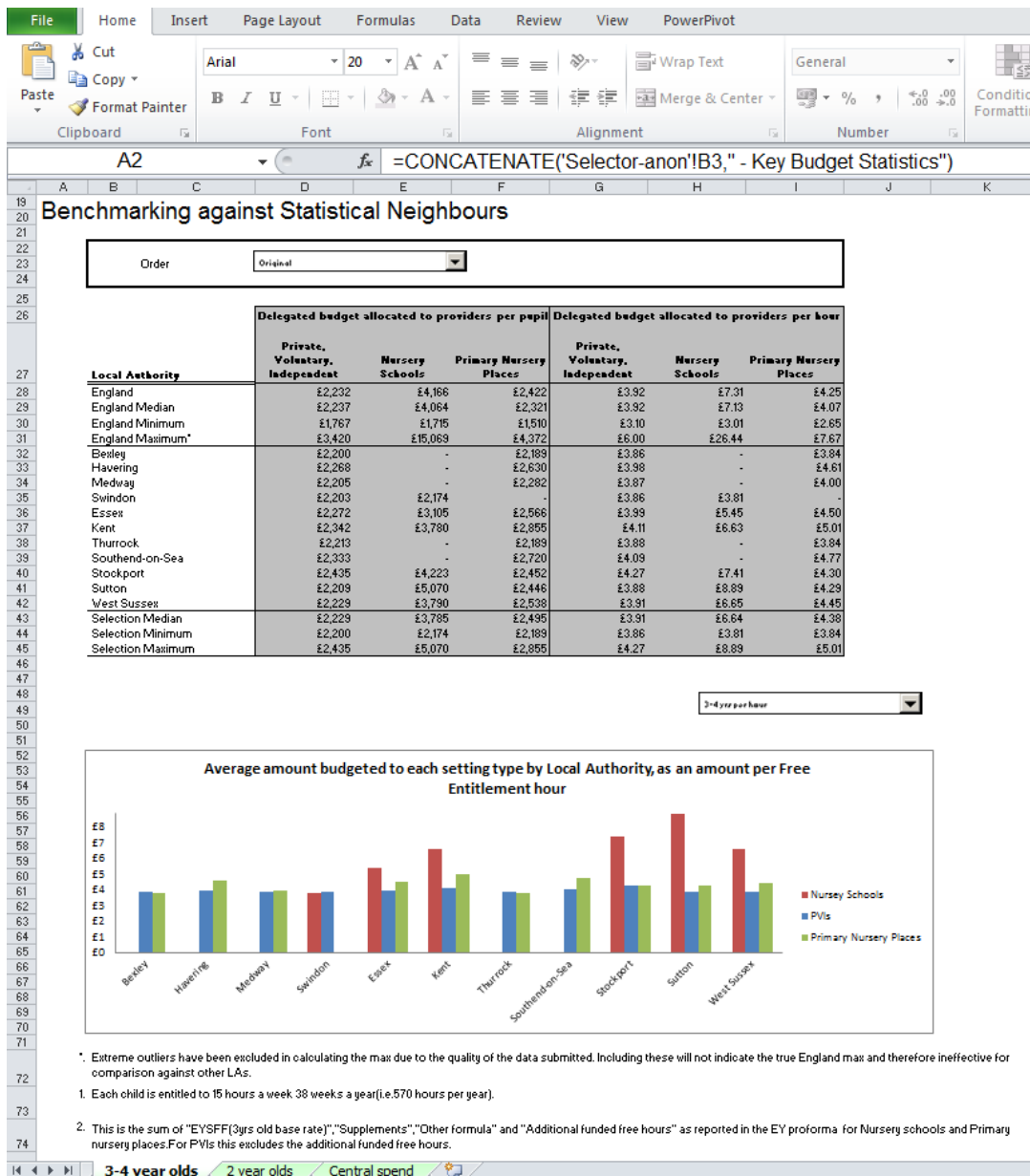


Benchmarking against statistical neighbours

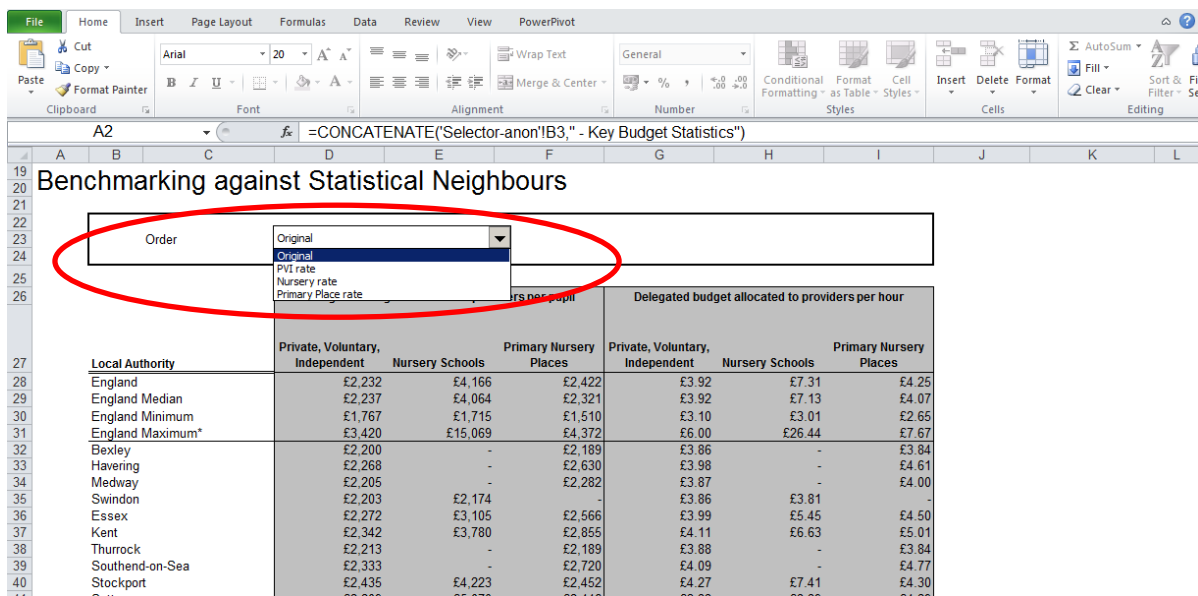
The benchmarking against statistical neighbours section includes a table showing the average cost per pupil and per hour by early years provider types; and the same information represented in a bar graph form.

It is important to note that the hourly rate may not be the actual rate a provider receives. The data presented here is an average for each provider type across individual local authorities.

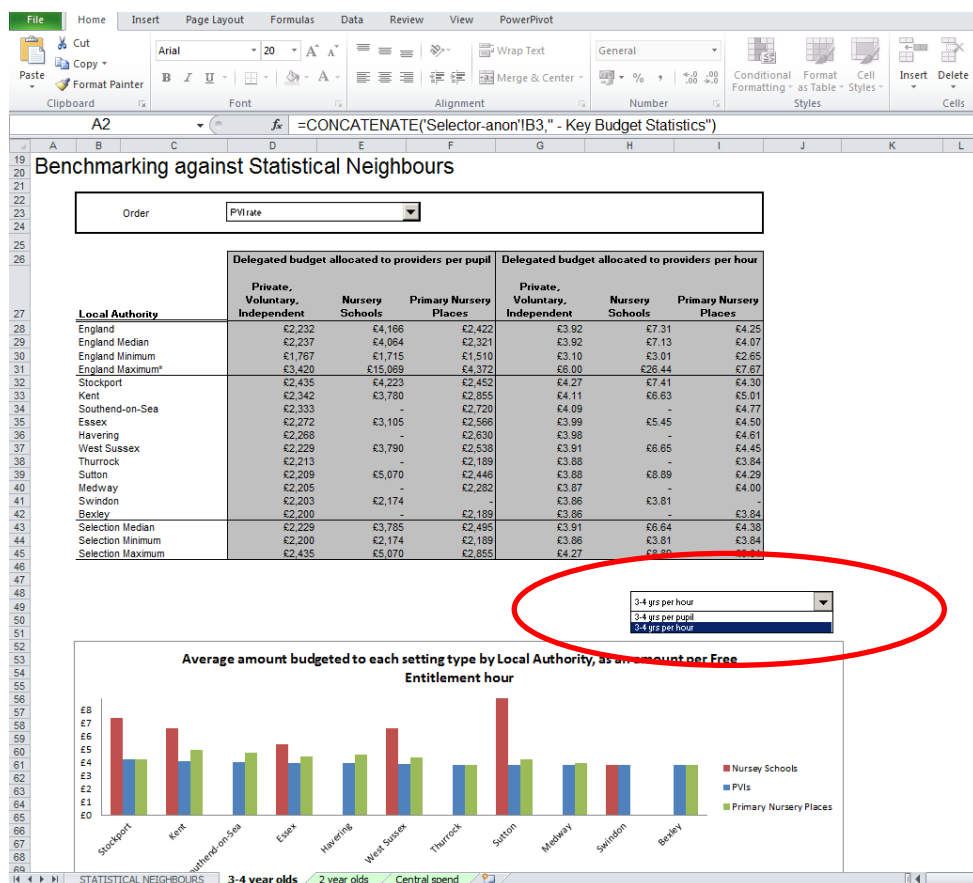
The benchmarking table also shows the England mean, median, maximum and minimum for each provider type. The mean, median, maximum and minimum of the selected local authorities is also included, where possible.



The table can be sorted by each of the columns by using the drop down box.



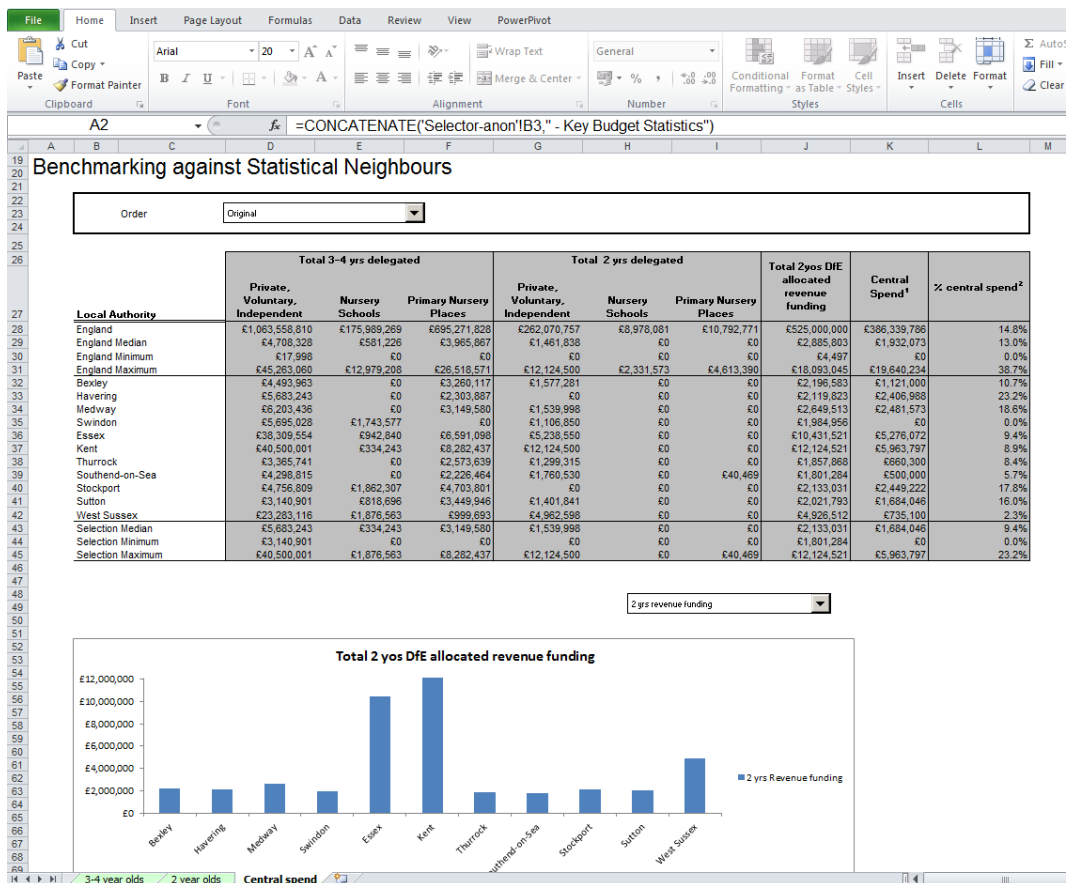
The graph can be viewed by per pupil or per hour data.



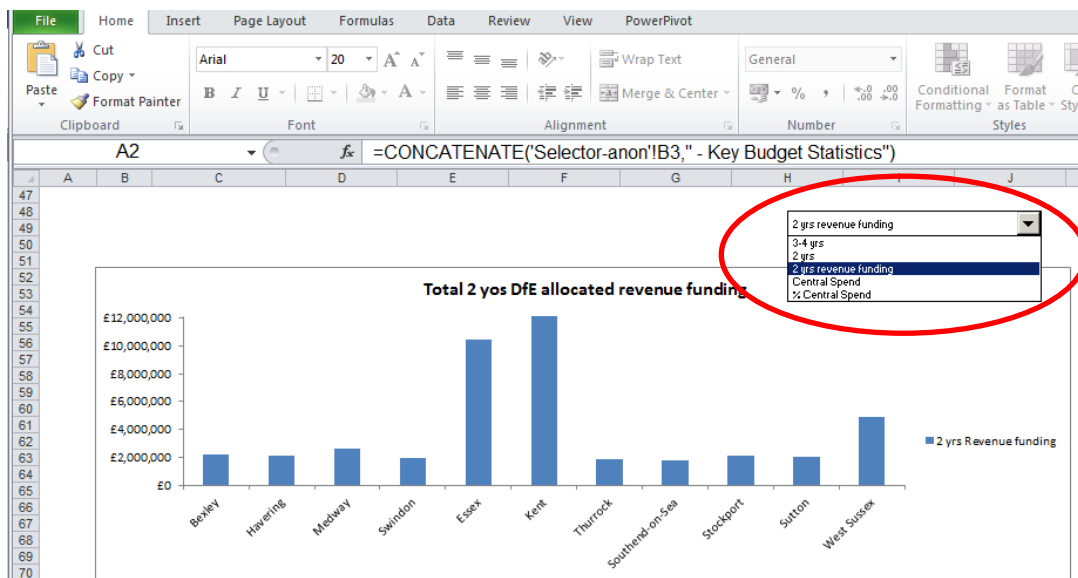
Central spend

The benchmarking table for the central spend worksheet includes:

- 3 & 4-year-olds total delegated budget to each provider
- 2-year-olds total delegated budget to each provider
- Total DfE allocated revenue funding for 2-year-olds
- Central spend (this is the sum of early years contingency, early years central retained and additional funded hours beyond the statutory 15 hours a week for PVIs)
- % of central spend against delegated budget for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds



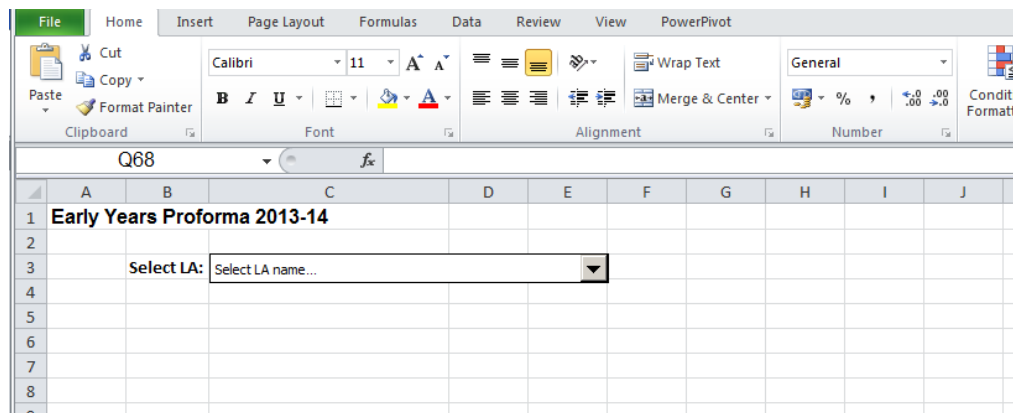
As with the 2-year-olds and 3 and 4-year olds worksheets, the benchmarking table can be sorted by each of the columns by using the drop down box; and the graph can be viewed for each of the columns.



Early years proforma

The Department is publishing, for the first time, an early years proforma for each local authority. This has been produced by the Department based on the same section 251 returns as the benchmarking tables, i.e. projected spend in 2013-14.

Select the LA from the drop down box:



The early years proforma includes more detailed information on how each local authority allocates early education funding. The proforma is intended to complement the benchmarking tables.

The early years proforma contains, for each local authority, details of:

- The early years single funding formula (EYSFF) for two, three and four year olds, setting out the base rates, supplements and lump sums paid;
- Details on any additional hours funded by the authority;
- Information on how early years central spend is utilised; and
- The size of early years contingency funding.

EY Table: FUNDING PERIOD (2013-14)										
Bolton		350								
		Unit Value			Number of Units			Anticipated Budget		
Row Heading	Description	PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class	UnitType	PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class	Total Budget	Proportion of Funding
1 EYSFF (three and four year olds) Base Rate(s) per hour, per provider type	With Professional	£3.66	£4.42	£3.66	PerHour	634,040	198,276	1,205,286	£2,320,585.01	£7,608,313.99
	Without Professional	£2.54			PerHour	526,748			£1,337,940.00	
	Childminders	£3.37			PerHour	64,219			£216,418.00	
2a. Supplements: Deprivation	Per Pupil	£0.89	£0.89	£0.89	PerHour	490,739	106,554	692,318	£436,810.99	£94,833.00
	Childminders	£0.89			PerHour	25,034			£22,280.00	
2b. Supplements: Quality	No budget lines entered									
2c. Supplements: Flexibility	Between 7 and 8 hours - professional	£0.37			PerHour	26,157			£9,678.00	
	More than 8 hours - professional	£0.55			PerHour	416,091			£228,850.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - professional	£0.55	£0.66		PerHour	363,444	199,177		£199,894.00	£131,457.00
	Between 7 and 8 hours - no professional	£0.25			PerHour	10,832			£2,708.00	
	More than 8 hours - no professional	£0.38			PerHour	334,345			£127,051.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - no professional	£0.38			PerHour	318,395			£120,990.00	
	Between 7 and 8 hours - Childminder				PerHour					
	More than 8 hours - childminder	£0.50			PerHour	33,200			£16,600.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - Childminder	£0.50			PerHour	18,664			£9,332.00	
2d. Supplements: Sustainability	No budget lines entered									
3. Other formula	No budget lines entered									
4. Additional funded free hours	No budget lines entered									
TOTAL FUNDING FOR EARLY YEARS SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA (3x ANC)									£5,049,137.00	£1,102,670.98
									£5,027,511.00	£11,179,318.98
										68.36%
		Unit Value			Number of Units			Anticipated Budget		
Row Heading	Description	PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class	UnitType	PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class	Total Budget	Proportion of Funding
5. Two year old Base Rate(s) per	Base Rate	£4.65			PerHour	437,479			£2,412,773.15	



Department
for Education

© Crown copyright 2014

You may re-use this document/publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v2.0. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2 or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at www.education.gov.uk/contactus.

This document is available for download at www.gov.uk/government/publications. [###
or insert alternative web address for publication ###]